

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. M23-0687.01 Rebecca Hausmann x2172

SJM23-002

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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Lukens,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 23-002

101 **MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATOR JOHN (JACK) TAYLOR.**

1 WHEREAS, John (Jack) W. Taylor, the former Senator, departed
2 this life on April 22, 2020, at the age of 84; and

3 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor was born in Chicago, Illinois, on
4 November 22, 1935, to Harvey and Pauline Taylor; and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor grew up on a farm in Auburn, Iowa,
6 with his brother Robert before attending Iowa State University; and

7 WHEREAS, In college, Senator Taylor was in the Navy ROTC
8 program and played baseball, in which he excelled, being named All
9 Conference at second base and playing for the 1957 Iowa State University
10 varsity baseball team that won the Big 7 Conference Championship and
11 placed third in the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

1 WHEREAS, After college, Senator Taylor joined the Navy and
2 served on an icebreaker ship that participated in the International
3 Geophysical Year operation in Antarctica, an international scientific
4 project that lasted from July 1, 1957, to December 31, 1958; and

5 WHEREAS, After serving in the Navy, Senator Taylor moved to
6 New Orleans, Louisiana, where he worked for Boeing Aerospace on the
7 Apollo Moon Landing Project; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor also spent time in Kuwait, helping to
9 build and staff the country's first oil refinery before moving to Steamboat
10 Springs, Colorado, in 1969, where he established a real estate business
11 and became a partner in a small coal mining operation at Mount Harris;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, After moving to Steamboat Springs, Senator Taylor
14 met his wife, Geneva, whom he married in 1973; and

15 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor and Geneva had one daughter, Vicki,
16 and two grandchildren, Brianna and Dakin; and

17 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor served on several boards and
18 commissions, including the Soda Creek Ditch Board, before running for
19 the state legislature; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1992, Senator Taylor was elected to the Colorado
21 House of Representatives, where he served from 1993 to 2000, followed
22 by an eight-year term in the Colorado Senate from 2001 to 2008; and

23 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor was a well-respected and well-liked
24 statesman whose legislative career focused on support for the military,
25 wildlife, water, and telecommunications; and

26 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor sponsored 252 bills, memorials, and
27 resolutions in his 16 years in the legislature, 201 of which were enacted,
28 including bills on voting, tuition assistance for the National Guard,
29 petroleum storage tanks, creation of the Colorado tourism office, waste
30 tire recycling, and enterprise zones, among many others; and

31 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor served on the Agriculture and
32 Business committees in both the House and the Senate and was a member

1 of the Legislative Audit Committee for 12 years; he also served on joint
2 Water committees for 10 years, the joint Police Officers' and Firefighters'
3 Pension Reform Commission for five years, and several interim
4 committees throughout his tenure; and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor felt strongly that it was important to
6 fight for Western Slope water, vowing to protect water rights and
7 property rights; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor was also instrumental in providing
9 better telecommunications access in northwest Colorado; and

10 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor also loved working irrigation ditches
11 in his neighborhood and mowing the neighborhood Strawberry Park roads
12 and some neighbors' driveways with his John Deere tractor; and

13 WHEREAS, After serving in the General Assembly, one of
14 Senator Taylor's main activities was participating in the Republican Party,
15 chairing the Routt County Republican Party twice and partnering with his
16 wife, Geneva, to chair various Republican campaigns; and

17 WHEREAS, Senator Taylor and Geneva were a team, two
18 community leaders who complemented each other and were very strong
19 supporters of the community; and

20 WHEREAS, Geneva survived Senator Taylor, but passed away
21 just six months later on October 15, 2020; now, therefore,

22 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fourth General*
23 *Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives*
24 *concurring herein:*

25 That, in the death of Senator Jack Taylor, the people of the state
26 of Colorado have lost a devoted public servant and an outstanding citizen,
27 and that we, the members of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly, pay
28 tribute to Jack Taylor for his years of dedicated public service and do
29 hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his
30 family.

31 *Be It Further Resolved*, That a copy of this Joint Memorial be sent
32 to Senator Taylor's daughter and son-in-law, Vicki and Trent Bushner of
33 Yuma, Colorado; his granddaughter, Brianna Klammer; his grandson,

- 1 Dakin Bushner; and his brother, Robert Taylor of Houston, Texas.